(c) Details of utilization of funds in respect of Institutions under Ministry of Science and Technology and in the State of Maharashtra are given below:-

	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009
All India including Maharashtra	1802.3761	Rs.2100.6736	2808.965
Institutes in Maharashtra	155.3468	164.2658	213.936

(d) At present, there is no proposal for setting up of any new Institution in Maharashtra.

Funds for State Councils of S & T

2399. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is not a fact that financial assistance to Andhra Pradesh under Assistance for Development of State Councils of S & T for projects, etc., has come down from 2006-07 onwards;

(b) if so, the reasons for reduction in providing assistance to Andhra Pradesh;

(c) whether any surveys in the State of Andhra Pradesh have been undertaken to identify State-specific problems in the last five years;

(d) if so, the outcome of such surveys; and

(e) the action that has been contemplated or proposed to contemplate in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY : (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The financial assistance to Andhra Pradesh State Council for Science and Technology under State Science and Technology Programme (formerly Assistance for Development of State Councils of Science and Technology) has increased from Rs.27 lakhs during 2006-07 to Rs.32 lakhs during 2008-09. However, for the 2009-10, Andhra Pradesh State Council for Science and Technology has not yet submitted the proposal seeking the financial assistance. They have been requested to submit the proposal at the earliest.

(c) to (e) Yes Sir. During the last five years, the Department had supported a project to Andhra Pradesh State Council for Science and Technology to undertake a survey/study to identify State-specific problems requiring State and Technology intervention for the purpose of facilitating the Council in planning and prioritizing Science and Technology activities at State level. The project has been completed and report submitted by them. The Council has been advised to formulate projects in the areas identified in the report.

Safety aspects of GM Crops

2400. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state: